

## Arkansas Department of Human Services Division of Medical Services

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February 27, 2003

Mike Fiore
Director, Division of Integrated Health Systems
Family and Children's Health Programs Group
Center for Medicaid and State Operations
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
7500 Security Boulevard, Mail Stop S2-01-16
Baltimore, MD 21244-1850

Dear Mr. Fiore:

Arkansas accepts the terms and conditions of the Family Planning (Women's Health) Waiver extension with the following provisions:

The period covered by the extension should be February 1, 2003 through January 31, 2006;

The State requests that the time frame of 90 days for the draft final report on page 5, number 12 be extended. The 90-day deadline was never feasible for us because of our 365-day claim filing deadline and the addition of the temporary extensions totaling 5 months to the original waiver period means the information for the final report will not be available for several months after the end of the original waiver period; and

CMS and the State must come to an agreement regarding the base-year fertility rate discussed in Attachment A of the terms and conditions.

The State requests that CMS reconsider its position regarding the 30-day deadline for quarterly reports for this waiver. Arkansas has several 1115 waivers and all except this one allow 60 days following the end of the quarter for the submission of a quarterly report. Information for the report is not always available within 30 days. Having different deadlines also means our information technology people are constantly working on waiver reports.

Arkansas thanks you and your staff for all your hard work to allow us to continue with this important program.

Sincerely.

Roy Jeffus, Interim Director

Cc: Andrew A. Fredrickson, Associate Regional Administrator, CMS, Dallas Regional Office Daniel McCarthy, CMS, Baltimore Central Office J.P. Peters, CMS, Dallas Regional Office